

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3052

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/80

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: EWG MEETING MAY 31

REF: A. USNATO 3006 (NOTAL)

B. STATE 113922 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. AT MAY 31 MEETING, EWG CONSIDERED THE FINAL REPORT OF THE LOGISTICS SPECIALIZATION SUB-GROUP AND THE DRAFT REPORT BY THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION. THE EWG REQUESTED MAJOR REVISIONS TO THE DRAFT REPORT AND MISSION WILL TRANSMIT THE NEXT VERSION TO WASHINGTON BY SEPTEL. EWG ALSO RECEIVED FRG ANTI-ARMOR PRESENTATION, A REPORT OF WHICH ALSO FOLLOWS SEPTEL. END SUMMARY.

1. ASYG TUCKER INTRODUCED THE FINAL REPORT OF THE LOGISTICS SPECIALIZATION STUDY SUB-GROUP (AC/281-REPORT(74)11) BY SUMMARIZING ITS CONTENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH EMPHASIZED THE MOVEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION/LOC AREA AS PROMISING. MR. DEVEGLIA, CONFIDENTIAL

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DIRECTOR NATO CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING (CEP) DIRECTORATE, COMMENTED THAT PBEIST, ONE OF THE SCEPC COMMITTEES, SHOULD BE CHARGED WITH COORDINATION OF THE LOC EFFORTS. US REP (CLINARD) STATED THAT US CAN APPROVE REPORT AS WRITTEN AND RECOMMENDED THAT

EWG ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING LOC EFFORTS WITH ASSISTANCE OF NATO STAFF AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO INCLUDE CEP MEMBERS. SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES SUPPORTED THIS, INCLUDING THE MC REP WHO SUGGESTED THAT THE CEP STAFF MEMBER SHOULD CHAIR THE LOC STAFF GROUP. SINCE SOME COUNTRIES DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS ON REPORT, THE EWG CONCLUDED THAT FURTHER DISCUSSION WAS REQUIRED PRIOR TO PASSING REPORT AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO PERMREPS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE REPORT WILL BE PLACED ON FUTURE EWG AGENDA. HOWEVER, A DISCUSSION ON THE LOGISTICS SPECIALISATION REPORT WILL BE INCLUDED IN DRAFT REPORT FROM DPC TO MINISTERS.

2. THE REPORT OF THE NATO MARITIME SUB-GROUP ON SPECIALIZATION SIMILARLY WILL BE SUMMARIZED IN THE DPC REPORT TO MINISTERS.

3. CONCERNING THIS DRAFT REPORT TO MINISTERS, THE EWG GAVE LITTLE SUPPORT TO THE INITIAL VERSION WHICH WAS TRANSMITTED TO WASHINGTON BY REF A. DRAWING ON REF B, US REP MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

"I BELIEVE AT THIS POINT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CONSIDER THE ROLE OF THE EWG IN FUTURE RATIONALIZATION AND SPECIALIZATION WORK.

"WHILE IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO REPLY UPON THOSE BODIES NOW IN EXISTENCE FOR TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, THE UNITED STATES BELIEVE THE FUNCTION OF THE EWG IN RATIONALIZATION IS TO SEEK TO RESOLVE AT HIGHER LEVELS AND WITH POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT THOSE TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE ISSUES WHICH ARE DESERVING OF RATIONALIZATION BUT WHICH HAVE GONE UNRESOLVED OVER THE YEARS FOR LACK OF HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION.

"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PROPOSES THAT THE NEXT TASK OF THE EWG BE TO LIST IN A FORMAT SIMILAR TO THE US ILLUSTRATIVE MATRIX THE MORE PROMISING FUNCTIONAL AREAS PROPOSED THUS FAR. THE EWG CAN THEN BEGIN DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF WHAT IS INVOLVED IN EACH OF THE PROPOSED AREAS AND DEAL
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WITH THE POTENTIAL INCREASE OR DECREASE IN EXPENDITURES FOR EACH OF THE NAIONS INVOLVED IN IMPLEMENTING ANY PARTICULAR FRUNCTIONAL PROPOSAL.

"SUCH AN ATTEMPT TO FORM A MATRIX SHOULD PRODUCE CLARIFICATION OF THE MEANING OF THE VARIOUS FUNCTIONAL AREAS AND ALLOW NATIONS TO COMMENT NOT ONLY UPON THE CONCEPTS, BUT ALSO TO INDICATE THEIR VIEWS OF THE DIRECTION, WHETHER PLUS OR MINUS, OF CHANGE. WE SUGGEST POSTPONING EXAMINATION OF THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY IMPLICATINS OF THE VARIOUS TRADE OFFS IN ORDER TO CONCENTRATE INITIALLY UPON COST EFFICIENCY. PROCEDURALLY, THE NEXT STEP AFTER FORMATION OF A MATRIX COULD BE CONCENTRATED STUDY OF THE MORE APPARENT INEFFICIENCIES

WHICH IF RESOLVED WOULD PROVIDE SAVINGS TO THE GREATEST NUMBER OF NATIONS. WE BELIEVE THT IF THIS STUDY IS DONE IN A TENTATIVE MANNER, WITHOUT COMMITMENT DURING THESE DISCUSSIONS, PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE. WE BELIEVE THAT AT PRESENT THE MOST LIKELY CANDIDATES TO BENEFIT THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NATIONS WOULD BE IN FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES OF: HOST NATION SUPPORT, CONSOLIDATED TRAINING AND CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS.

"WITH RESPECT TO THE DRAFT REPORT TO MINISTERS PREPARED BY THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF, WE FELT THAT IT IS PREMATURE AT THIS TIME TO ASK MINISTERS TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON WHICH AREAS MIGHT BE STUDIED. ACCORDINGLY, WE OFFER A REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS SECTION OF THE REPORT."

4. AT THIS POINT, US DISTRIBUTED A PROPOSED CHANGE TO PARA 8 OF THE DRAFT REPORT AS FOLLOWS:

"RECOMMENDATIONS

8. THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE ENDORSES THE VIEW OF THE EXECUTIVEWORKING GROUP AND RECOMMENDS THAT MINISTERS:

"(A) TAKE NOTE OF THIS REPORT AND ITS CONCLUSIONS;

"(B) APPROVE FURTHER STUDY OF SPECIALIZATION BY THE EWG, CONCENTRATING ON THE AREAS AT ANNEX A AND OTHERS OFFERING PROMISE THAT MAY BE RECOMMENDED BY NATIONS AND THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES. THE EWG SHOULD MONITOR AREAS UNDER STUDY
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BY EXISTING BODIES AND THE EUROGROUP AND LEND SUPPORT AND COORDINATION WHERE APPROPRIATE;

"(C) REAFFIRM THAT SPECIALIZATION MUST NOT IMPLY ANY REDUCTION OF DEFENCE EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED."

5. ACTING ON SUGGESTIONS BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE REP (VON ZUR GATHEN) AND THE UK REP (MACDONALD), THE EWG AGREED TO DELETE REFERENCE TO UK REP (MACDONALD), THE EWG AGREED TO DELETE REFERENCE TO ANNEX A AND THE EUROGROUP IN SUBPARA 8B OF THE US PROPOSAL. THE EWG FELT THAT THE LIST OF SUBJECTS AT ANNEX A SHOULD BE DELETED FROM THE REPORT AS THEY HAD NOT, IN ALL CASES, FOUND SUPPORT. FURTHER, MINISTERS MIGHT CONSIDER SUCH A LIST EXCLUSIVE.

6. IN ADDITION TO VARIOUS EDITORIAL COMMENTS BY THE DIFFERENT REPS, TURKISH REP (TOPUR) STATED THAT REPORT SHOULD REFLECT MORE COMPLETELY THE PROGRESS OF EWG WORK IN RATIONALIZATION AND SPECIALIZATION. NETHERLANDS REP (CARSTEN) AGREED AND FURTHER COMMENTED THAT THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS SECTIONS WERE TOO NEGATIVE. MC REP OFFERED A

CHANGE TO THE CONCLUSIONS SECTION.

7. CHAIRMAN (HUMPHREYS) PROMISED ANOTHER DRAFT REFLECTING EWG VIEWS TO BE DISTRIBUTED P.. MAY 31. THIS REVISED DRAFT WILL BE CONSIDERED AT NEXT MEETING A.M. JUNE 4. MISSION WILL TRANSMIT REVISED TEXT BY SEPTTEL WITH COMMENTS. FINAL REPORT MUST BE READY TO SUBMIT TO DPC FOR APPROVAL ON JUNE 6.

8. AT THIS MEETING, EWG ALSO HEARD ANTI-ARMOR PRESENTATION BY FRG. REPORT OF THIS PRESENTATION FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.
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